

Newsletter

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES

Editors: Peter Robinson, Lyn Green Éditeur adjoint: Jean-Frédéric Brunet



An Iconographical Study of the Royal-ka during the Middle Kingdom

Ahmed Hamden
October 6 University, Egypt
(Winner of the 2015
Larkman Award)

Winter 2015 #1

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CANADA

The ancient Egyptians believed that the special activating force was the *ka*, which determined the difference between the living and the non-living.¹ After the king's death, it becomes the link between the gods and the next king in transferring this energy, which will provide his successor with the legitimacy he needs. Everyone may possess this vital energy of the *ka*, but the king acts as a mediator between the gods and the people.² The Royal-*ka* first appears during the Old Kingdom and continued until the Roman Period.

Following on from my doctoral research relating to the scenes of the Royal-*ka* during the New Kingdom, this paper will focus on the same phenomenon during the Middle Kingdom. This includes an analysis of the representations of the Royal-*ka* on the walls of the temples, tombs and stela. One of the goals of the paper is to clarify the important religious role of the Royal-*ka* and its assimilation with kingship during this period.

The Royal-*ka* was personified in two forms during the Middle Kingdom: the standard and anthropomorphic figures,



Senusert I followed by the Standard ka in the presence of Amun-Re, Thoth, Buto, Monthu and Nekhbet - Complex of Karnak

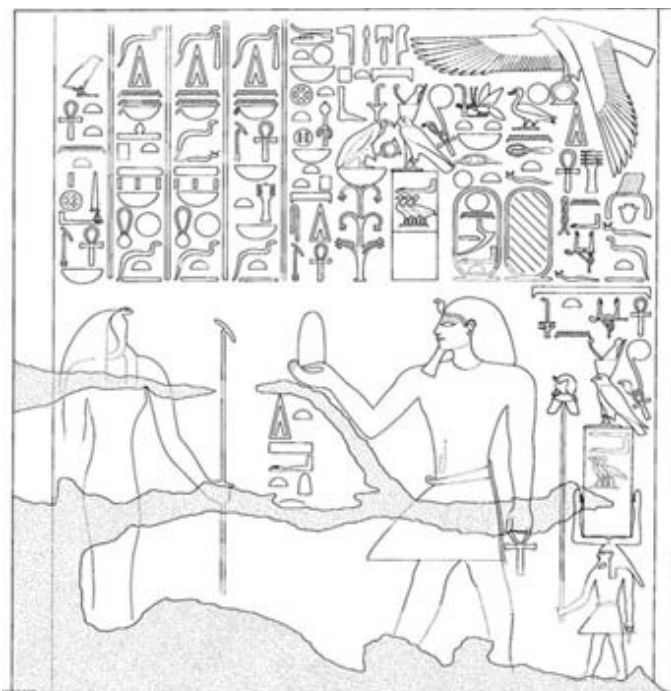
both of which followed the pharaohs.³ A- The standard type: the figure of the Royal-*ka* stands on a pole, the base of which ends with the *Sn*-sign, with its upraised arms, holding the king's *serekh*. B- The anthropomorphic figures: the Royal-*ka* is manifested as a male human figure, upon it the *ka*-arms are held vertically and embrace the king's *serekh*, and shown once with the nomen name at Medinet Madi temple.

The two figures of the Royal-*ka* are depicted frequently with two additional arms, presumably, holding the *mdw-špsj* staff wearing and the *Maat* ostrich feather in the other hand. The anthropomorphic *ka* is presented with two dimensions, the first one is the undersized figure regularly following the kings in the majority of the scenes; while the second type is bigger and equal in size to the king.⁴

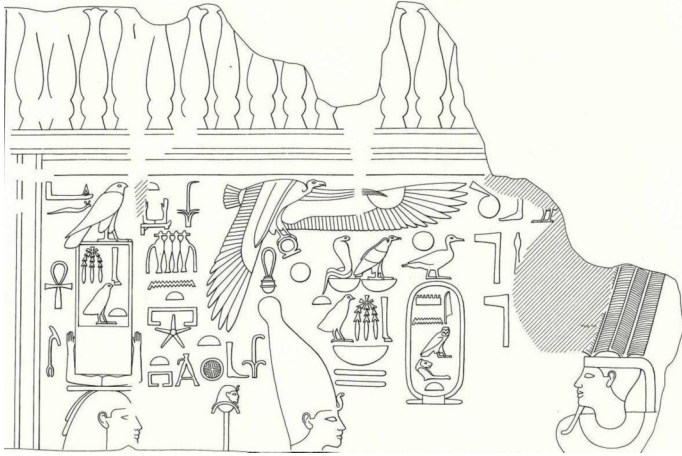
The religious role of the Royal-*ka* is clearly determined among the accompanied texts, revealing the *ka*'s personality, epithets and the corresponded locations. Basically, the epithet *k3-nsw.t ʿnh* is the most common one and followed in the some reliefs with *nb-t3.wy hnt pr-dw3.t db3.t* "foremost of the morning house and the palace". The variant of the Royal-*ka* is inscribed the most during the Middle Kingdom (10 sc.), in addition to other variants such as:



The texts of the Royal-*ka* includes the *sdm=f* form (*dj=f*), which reveals the ability of the Royal-*ka* to give and grant to the king like the role of the deities; for instance: *dj=f ʿnh dd w3s* "May he give life, stability and dominion".⁵ The texts of the



Amenemhat III and his minimize anthropomorphic ka before Renenutet - Temple (A) of Renenutet at Medinet Madi



Amenemhat I followed by his Anthropomorphic ka before Amun-kamutef - Koptos, Petrie Museum in London (UC 14785).

kings and deities showed their wishes for the ka to join the pharaoh again, the texts of Amun-kamutef's at the White Chapel: *dj.n=(j) k3=k hn^c=k m hnt k3w n^hw*, "(I) have given your ka with you in the foremost of the living kas". In another example of Amenemhat III at Medinet Madi, *d(w) n^h dd hn^c k3=f 3wt-jb=f dt* "Giving life and stability together with his ka and his happiness forever".⁶

The kings of the Middle Kingdom were keen to portray themselves with their *kas*; the Royal-ka appeared in different locations at the temples, for instance: Chapels, Doorways, Niches, Sanctuaries and Stela. Numerous manifestations of the Royal-ka were depicted for several kings at different sites, including Amenemhat I (Koptos); Senwosret I (Karnak); Senwosret II (Wadi Gasus); Senwosret III (Abydos); and Amenemhat III (Medinet Madi). The Complex of Karnak housed the largest number of scenes of the Royal-ka during the Middle kingdom, which precisely appeared with Senwosret I (12 sc.).

There is a distinctive role of the Royal-ka on the process

Sources:

¹ E. Hornung, *Conception of God in Ancient Egypt. The one and the Many*, translated by J. Baines (London, 1982), p. 47; C. Spieser, *Les noms du Pharaon. Comme êtres autonomes au Nouvel Empire*, OBO 174 (Göttingen, 2000), p. 115.

² U. Schweitzer, *Das Wesen des Ka im Diesseits und Jenseits der Alten Ägypter*, ÄF 9 (Glückstadt, 1956), p. 25 and 61; D. Meeks, Chr. Meeks-Favard, *Daily Life of the Egyptian Gods*, translated from the French by G.M. Goshgriani (London, 1996), p. 71.

³ There is an exceptional scene of the Royal-ka facing and fanning king Ramesses III from Koptos, now housed in the Petrie Museum, UCL (UC 14481), see, W.M. Flinders Petrie *et al.*, *The Labyrinth Gerzeh and Mazghuneh* (London, 1912), p. 36, pl. XXXVIII (1); PM V, p. 132.

⁴ L. Bell, "Luxor Temple and the Cult of the Royal Ka", in *JNES* 44 (1985), p. 272; J. Assmann, *Death and Salvation in Ancient Egypt*, translated from the German by D. Lorton (London, 2005), p. 44.

⁵ For more examples of the sDm=f form among the texts of the Royal-ka and Amenemhat I see, W.M. Flinders Petrie, *Abydos I*, MEEF 22 (London, 1902), p. 11, pl. 9.1; H.M. Stewart, *Egyptian Stelae, Reliefs and Paintings from the Petrie Collection*, II. Archaic Period to Second Intermediate Period (Warminster, 1979), p. 13-14, pl. 12; C. Obsomer, *Sésostris 1^{er}. Étude chronologique et historique du règne*, CEA 5 (Bruxelles, 1995), p. 100-101. For Senwosret I see, L. Michel-Cotelle, "Présentation préliminaire des blocs de la chapelle de Sésostris 1^{er} découverte dans le IX^e pylône de Karnak", in *CahKarn* XI (2003), p. 344, fig. 3 (N1).

⁶ For Amenemhat III, see E. Bresciani, A. Giammarusti, *I Templi di Medinet Madi nel Fayum* (Pisa, 2012), p. 95 and for Amun-kamutef, see P. Lacau and H. Chevrier, *Une Chapelle de Sésostris 1^{er} Karnak II*, Planches (Cairo, 1959), pl. 39 (Sc. 26).

⁷ E. Naville, *The XIth Dynasty Temple at Deir el-Bahari I*, MEEF 18 (London, 1907) p. 58-59, pl. XXIV; III, pl. XV; E. Hirsch, *Kultpolitik und Tempelbauprogramme der 12. Dynastie. Untersuchungen zu den Göttertempeln im Alten Ägypten* (Berlin, 2004), p. 315-317 (Dok. 211); Kh. El-Enany, "Des pharaons inoubliables. Regard sur la postérité des souverains illustres du Moyen Empire", in *EAO* 74 (2014), p. 4 and fig. 1.

⁸ PM VII, p. 147 (12); G.A. Reisner *et al.*, *Second Cataract Forts I, Semna Kumaa*, Museum of Fine Arts (Boston, 1960), pl. 21 (a); R.A. Caminos, *Semna-Kumma I. The Temple of Semna*, ASE 37 (London, 1998), p. 94-95, pl. 49.

of transmitting the legitimacy from the father-king to his successor son. During the Middle Kingdom, the Royal-ka appeared with the living king and his deified father in one scene to ensure this transformation. A good example during the Middle Kingdom is the granite stela (JE 38655) of Senwosret III, found at Deir el-Bahri, in which the king is followed by his ka,⁷ the king consecrates a heap of different kinds of offerings before the deified Mentuhotep Nebheptre. During the 18th Dynasty and at the temple of Semna west, Senwosret III became a deified father-king and receives offerings with Dedwen from the living Thutmose III followed by his ka.⁸

The Royal-ka is associated with several rites during the Middle Kingdom, for instance: the king receives the *n^h*-sign, pouring sacred water, being embraced by gods, offering the king's eye and sails in their royal barks. This is in addition to many examples of the offerings depicted in the presence of the Royal-ka, such as: *s3^ct*-bread, incense and a heap of offerings. The iconographical representations of the Royal-ka are depicted widely behind the kings for protection in the majority of the smiting scenes in the periods before the Middle Kingdom and after until the Roman period.



Senusert II followed by his standard ka before Soped - Red Sea, Roman station at Wadi Gawasis, Stela of Khnoumhotep (overseer of the cabinet), Durham University Museum (N 1935)

Call for Articles



Dr. John L. Foster; photo courtesy Ann Foster

The Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities/Société pour l'Étude de l'Égypte Ancienne has decided to dedicate volumes 42 and 43 of the *Journal of the SSEA* to the memories of our late colleagues and long-time members **Edwin C. Brock** and **Dr. John L. Foster**, one number of the journal being dedicated to each.

Article submissions dealing with any area of Egyptology are welcomed from those who wish to honour either Ted Brock or Jack Foster.

Scholars who are interested in submitting articles to either or both volumes should contact the Editors of the *JSSEA* at journalofthessea@gmail.com or journal@thessea.org for more information on deadlines and contributor guidelines. PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT INDIVIDUAL EDITORS DIRECTLY.

Deadline is February 29, 2016 for contributions for volume 42, which will be dedicated to the memory of Dr. Foster. The deadline for contributions to volume 43, in memory of Ted Brock is May 31st, 2015. The Guidelines for Contributors are

available in French and English at academia.edu.

Anyone who is interested in making a donation towards the publication of these volumes may contact info@thessea.org. Donors will be recognized via a tabula gratulatoria in the front of each volume.

Dr. Jackie L. Jay and Dr. Edmund S. Meltzer, Editors of the *JSSEA*

Appel à Contributions

La Société pour l'Étude de l'Égypte Ancienne/Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities a décidé de dédicacer les volumes 42 et 43 du Journal de la SÉÉA (*JSSEA*) à la mémoire de nos ex-collègues, membres de la Société pendant de nombreuses années, **Edwin C. Brock** et **Dr. John L. Foster**. Un numéro du Journal sera ainsi dédicacé à chacun d'eux.

Les chercheurs intéressés à soumettre des articles traitant de n'importe quel sujet relié à l'égyptologie et souhaitant honorer Ted Brock et/ou Jack Foster devraient contacter les éditeurs du *JSSEA* au journalofthessea@gmail.com ou au journal@thessea.org pour plus d'informations sur les échéances et les conventions d'écriture. Date limite est le 29 février, 2016 pour les contributions pour le volume 42, dédicacé à Dr. Foster. Date limite est le 31 mai 2016 pour les contributions pour le volume 43, dédicacé à Ted Brock. Guidelines for Contributors est disponible en français et en anglais academia.edu.

Toutes les personnes qui désireraient faire un don afin de contribuer à la publication de ces volumes sont priées de contacter info@thessea.org pour de plus amples informations. Les donateurs seront reconnus par l'entremise d'une tabula gratulatoria au début de chaque volume et les citoyens canadiens et américains recevront un reçu pour fin d'impôt.

Dr. Jackie L. Jay et Dr. Edmund S. Meltzer, Editeurs du *JSSEA*



Edwin C. Brock; photo courtesy Lyla Pinch Brock

Our 41st Annual Symposium

EGYPT'S THREATENED TREASURES: Plunder and Restoration, Past & Present

The SSEA/SÉÉA's 41st Annual Symposium was held on November 7th, 2015 in 5 Bancroft Ave on the campus of the University of Toronto. In recognition of the importance of this topic to all who love world heritage, the Society chose this year to deal with both the saving and losing of history. The first two papers of the day dealt with ancient looters. Prof. Kasia Szpakowska, Swansea University gave a very entertaining presentation entitled *Cracking the Case of the Hawara Pyramid of Amenemhat III: Mission Impossible*. This was followed by an overview of *Plundered Pharaohs and Pillaged Patricians: Tomb Robbing in ancient Egypt* by SSEA President Dr. Lyn Green. After the first coffee break, Prof. Brian Muhs, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago talked about the cycle of destruction and re-used of papyri both ancient and modern in his paper *Cartonnage from papyri and papyri from cartonnage: discovery and destruction*. Turning to modern problems, Prof. Carol Redmount of the University of California at Berkeley gave a presentation called *Egypt's Disappearing History - Site Looting in Modern Times: El Hibeh and Beyond*.

The topic then turned to restoration and conservation. Rania Ahmed of Egyptian Museum in Cairo provided us with a presentation on *The mummy Amenhotep (CIT 10), Rescue and Restoration*. This otherwise unremarkable mummy is world famous by virtue of having been damaged during the break-in at the Egyptian Museum during January 2011. Unfortunately, Ms. Ahmed was not able to be with us in person, so her paper was very ably read by Deirdre Keleher, Toronto Chapter President.

The remaining papers dealt with efforts to record and restore of Egyptian antiquities, such as those overseen by master stonemason Dany Roy in his many years of working in Egypt,

and highlighted in his talk on *Restoration work in Khonsu temple (Karnak precinct) from 2008 to 2010*. A Canadian perspective was given by Mark Trumpour, one of the founders of In Search of Ancient Egypt in Canada Project with *Canadians Collect Ancient Egypt: Captains, the Curious and a Famous Scoundrel*.

The day ended with a *Tribute to Edwin C. Brock* by Dr. Gerald E. Kadish, Emeritus, SUNY-Binghamton and one of Ted Brock's earliest mentors in Egyptology. Ted Brock, a Society member of many years standing, was a frequent speaker both in the Scholars' Colloquium and as a Chapter lecturer. He was scheduled to present at this year's Symposium until these plans were disrupted by his untimely death in late September. In recognition of his close relationship with the Society, and his many friends among its members, the Editors of the *JSSEA* and the Board of Trustees have decided to dedicate volume 43 of the *Journal* to his memory. More information on this Gedenkschrift is available elsewhere in this *Newsletter*. A brief biography and tribute to Ted are available at

<http://symposium.thessea.org/2015/09/sad-news-ted-brock>

The Symposium Committee would like to thank all those who helped with the organization of this event, especially Dr. Lyn Green, who did the publicity, booked rooms and a/v and liaised with speakers, and Mme. Arlette Londes who arranged for their flights and accommodation and provided hospitality throughout the day. Thanks go to all the members of the Board of Trustees who chaired various papers. We would also like to thank the generosity of the speakers themselves, (especially Dr. Szpakowska), and acknowledge the aid of Dr. Jean Li and Ryerson University, and Ian Stevens of ISD.

November 2015 Scholars' Colloquium and Poster Session

The 2015-2016 Scholars' Colloquium and Poster Sessions were held in 5 Bancroft Ave. on the campus of the University of Toronto. Both the Colloquium and Poster Session once again saw speakers from around the world presenting on a wide variety of topics.

The Poster Session, which was held mid-day Friday, included presentations in person from Dr. Helene Moussa on St. Mark's Coptic Museum and on the Canadian Society for Coptic Studies; Dr. Ahmed Adel Hamden, 6 October University, Egypt (*The Role of the Personified-ankh in the Offering Scenes of the New Kingdom*); Hilo Sugita, Indiana University at Bloomington (*Case Study of the Middle Kingdom Standard Class Coffin: The Coffin of Yi at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County*) and Prof. Kasia Szpakowska of Swansea University (*The Ancient Egyptian Demonology Project: Second Millennium BCE*). Regrettably not all the posters or presenters were able to make it this year, but the Poster Session Committee would like to express their appreciation for these scholars' interest and hopes to include them on the list in some future year.

The Colloquium presentations included: Marina

Wilding Brown, Yale University (*New Analysis of the Titles of Teti on Statue BM EA 888*); Cloé Caron, Université du Québec à Montréal & Université de Montpellier III (*Nun: a Traditional and Static Conception? The Evolution of the Conception of Primeval Matter between the Middle and New Kingdom*); Prof. J.J. Castillos of the Uruguayan Institute of Egyptology (*The Location of Richer and/or Larger Children and Subadult Graves in Egyptian Naqada III Cemeteries*); Gayle Gibson, Royal Ontario Museum (*Fragments: Previously unaccessioned pieces of cartonnage coffins from Thebes in the Storerooms of the Royal Ontario Museum*); Dr. Christina Geisen, Yale University (*Rameside Stelae with a pyramidal top used as a vehicle to express Personal Piety*); Ihab Khalil (*The Divine Feminine in Egyptian "Gnosticism" An Example of the Social Context of Myth*); Mary Ann Marazzi, University of Birmingham, UK (*Ritual and Mystery of the Ished-Tree*); Dr. Heather McCarthy (*Representing "Coming Forth by Day" in Rameside Queens' Tombs*); Prof. Brian Muhs, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago (*An Egyptian Temple on the Eve of the Great Theban*

Revolt 205 BCE); André Henriques d'Almeida Garrido Patrício, Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas - Universidade Nova de Lisboa (*Vessels of the Nile, Ships of the Sea. The Gods' Daily Journey, The Egyptian Expeditions And The Military Strategies*); Tara Prakash, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University (*Locating the Enemy's Position: The Archaeological Evidence for the Original Location of the Prisoner Statues in the Pyramid Complex of Pepi II*); Dr. Foy Scalf, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago (*Demotic and Hieratic Scholia in Funerary Papyri and their Implications for the Manufacturing Process*); Dr. V. Tobin, Emeritus St. Mary's University, Halifax (*Old Kingdom Myth: From Politics to Religion*); Prof. Kasia Szpakowska, Swansea University (*Armed to the Feet: An iconography of protective New Kingdom dancing demons*); Dr. John S. Thompson, Harvard University (*Priestly Function in the*

Offering Rooms of Old Kingdom Elite Tombs); Dr. Nicholas Wernick, SSEA Calgary (*Once More unto the Breach: A Re-Evaluation of the Beni Hasan 'Battering Ram' and the Sloping 'Glacis'*); Donja Dongni Xu, Department of History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (*Hip-girdle as a stimulator of sexual attraction: Reflections on the eroticization of female body in the New Kingdom*); and the winner of the Steven Larkman Travel Award, Dr. Ahmed Adel Hamden, 6 October University, Egypt (*An Iconographical Study of the Royal-ka during the Middle Kingdom*).

The SSEA/SÉÉA Scholars' Colloquium and Poster Session Committees would like to thank the volunteers who helped with organizing and chairing these sessions, especially Mark Trumpour.

2015 Annual General Meeting of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities / La Société pour l'Étude de l'Égypte Ancienne

The Annual General Meeting of The Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities/Société pour l'Étude de l'Égypte Ancienne was held on November 6th, 2015 in room 323, 4 Bancroft Ave., on the campus of the University of Toronto. The Board of Trustees for 2015-2016 is:

Lyn Green, President

Prof. Kerry Muhlestein, Vice President

Arlette Londes, Treasurer

Dr. Peter Sheldrick, Acting Secretary of the Board; Chair, Bylaws and Policy Committee

Dr. Nicholas Wernick, Calgary Chapter Representative and Associate Webmaster

Cloé Caron, Montreal Chapter Representative/ French-Language Editor, *JSSEA*

Les O'Connor, Toronto Chapter Representative

Courtney McCombie, Vancouver Chapter Representative

The Membership and Administrative Secretaries of the SSEA/SÉÉA are John McGrady and Hanna Kurnitzki-West.

Prof. Jacqueline E. Jay, Editor, *JSSEA*

Dr. Edmund S. Meltzer, Editor, *JSSEA*

Peter Robinson, Webmaster and *SSEA Newsletter* Editor

Dr. Jean-Frédéric Brunet, French-Language Editor, *SSEA Newsletter*

Prof. John Gee

Rexine Hummel

Jean McGrady

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Prof. Mary Ann Wegner

THANK YOU

DON HALL : The Board of Trustees would like to thank Mr. Don Hall for stepping up to help as Assistant Treasurer in the 2014-2015 year and for volunteering for several committees during his tenure on the board.

DRE. BRIGITTE OUELLET : We are very sorry to announce the departure of Dre. Brigitte Ouellet as national Vice-President, a position which she held from 2008-2015, and as Montreal Chapter President, from 2000-2015. Brigitte has always a hard-working and enthusiastic supporter of the Society both in Quebec, and out of it and has agreed to stay on to help the new Montreal Chapter President, Cloe Caron, get started. She also continues to serve on two committees at the national level: the Bylaw and Policy Committee, and the Poster Session Committee.

ZOE MCQUINN : The Board would like to thank Zoe McQuinn for taking on the duties of Toronto Chapter Representative in 2014-2015 and for her editorial assistance with the *JSSEA*

The SSEA Toronto Chapter 2015 Ancient Egyptian New Year Dinner took place on July 18 at Cafe Novotel in downtown Toronto. In the front of the photo, facing the camera (left to right): Dr. Meg Morden, Mme. Arlette Londes, Dr. Steven Shubert.

(Photo credit: A. Londes)



Reports from our Chapters For Fall 2015

Calgary Chapter Report, Fall 2015

The Calgary Chapter of the SSEA has a good beginning to our lecture season. Our first, October lecture hosted Dr. Nancy Lovell from the University of Alberta as she presented a talk entitled, “Hill of Bones – The Mortuary Landscape of Kom el-Adhem”. In Dr. Lovell’s talk, she presented her excavations from this Deltine site, very close to Mendes, that she excavated in the 1990s and pointed out how the site has a very complex archaeological deposition; it has remains from the New Kingdom & Third Intermediate Period along with remains from the Greco-Roman Period and an animal necropolis.

Our second, November lecture saw a return of Dr. Kevin McGeough from the University of Lethbridge. His talk, entitled ““Nineveh has been ravaged! Who will console her?” - The Most Recent Destruction of the Assyrian Empire in the Wake of the Syrian Conflict”, was a great fit in with this year’s symposium topic. In his lecture, Dr. McGeough discussed the ‘cultural crisis’ currently going on in the Middle East and its relationship with ancient sites & artifacts.

For our December lecture, the executive decided to host an informal gathering to mark the holiday season. Along with an hour-long documentary on the life & work of Sir Flinders Petrie, we will have some more food than usual to foster a sense of community with our members. As always, we are on the hunt for more guest speakers to entertain our membership in the coming New Year. In closing, we would also like to express our best holiday wishes to the SSEA membership and everyone involved in the SSEA Symposium.

Montréal Chapter Report, Fall 2015

This season, a major earthquake shook the Montréal Chapter down to its very foundations when Dr. Brigitte Ouellet, our dear President for the past 15 years, which is since the very beginning of the Chapter, a true pillar on which we always relied, announced her retirement. But lo! And behold! Succession is secure, with Cloé Caron rising up to the challenge, holding strong and proud. There will be no field of ruins here!

This earth shattering event took place at the Chapter’s annual general meeting, back on October 21st. Three positions on the executive council were up for election: two councillor seats and the very presidency. While this reporter was easily re-elected, Dr. Ouellet caused quite a stir when she officially declined another term as president. Thankfully she had not made this decision out the blue, but after a long reflection and discussions with her fellow executive members, having designated a successor in the person of Cloé Caron, whom the assembly happily and with unanimity elected to this important seat. Ms. Caron, a PhD student of Dr. Revez at UQAM, has been on the executive for quite a few years now, her implication, both in the Chapter and on the national level, having grown over the seasons. Indeed, she has also been a national Trustee for a couple years now, working as French editor of the JSSEA. On the local level, she’s proven herself as a wonderful event manager, and certainly our best advocate within the UQAM walls. In her, the Chapter is ready for a new beginning. Immediately, yours truly proposed a special motion to thank Dr. Ouellet for her wonderful work, a unanimously adopted motion. That being said, Dr. Ouellet hasn’t stepped very far down, for she accepted nomination, and was duly elected, in the remaining councillor seat. From this new position she will guarantee a smooth succession, one which we could even call typical pharaonic coregency!

Otherwise, this fall has also been a most event-filled season with 6 wonderful lectures by 4 Egyptologists: Michel Guay (SSEA life member, “Magie et Pensée magique sous les pharaons”; Sept. 30), Prof. Nicolas Grimal (Collège de France, “Y a-t-il une littérature égyptienne”; Oct. 13 and “Archéologie et patrimoine dans l’Égypte de l’après-révolution”; Oct. 15), Prof. Ronald Leprohon (UofT, “Le mur des trois saisons. La chapelle de Pahery à el-Kab”; Nov. 25 and “Le dernier voyage de Toutankhamon”; Nov. 26) and Rexine Hummel (Toronto Chapter, “Come and Dig with me”, Dec. 9). Following Mr. Guay’s lecture, there was also a chapter-sponsored trip to Québec City to visit the small but wonderful “Égypte magique” special exhibit at the Musée de la Civilisation. Chapter members also gathered for a most enjoyable benefit supper on the evening of November 27. Fun, games, good food, money rising and the pleasure of socialising in a less academic atmosphere made for a most enjoyable occasion! Certainly next season promises as much! Come and hang with us!

Toronto Chapter Report, Fall 2015

This past year (2014-2015) was a successful, and very active, year for the Toronto Chapter! The Chapter hosted an incredible 11 speakers in our 2014-2015 Lecture Series including: Dr. Emily Teeter “Popular Religion in ancient Egypt”, Dr. Jennifer Hellum “The Foundation of Myth in the Pyramid Texts”, Dr. Mary-Ann Pouls Wegner “Of Hatshepsut and Hawks: Research on new finds from the Abydos Votive Zone”, Ulrike Dubiel “This Image is enchantingly beautiful – The Sensory Perception of Ancient Egyptian Art in 18th to 20th century Europe”, Dr. Marie-Pierre Chaufray “Latest results of the IFAO’s mission to Samut - a Ptolemaic fortress next to the gold mines in the Eastern desert”, Dr. Steven Shubert “Hair Today, ROM Tomorrow: Ancient Egyptian Hair Combs and Pins in the Royal Ontario Museum”, Cloé Caron “The Nun and the fundamental nature of water in Egyptian mythological thought: Origin, fertility and renewal”, Leah Bender “Straight from the Lion’s Mouth: The problem with Bes Jars”, Stephen Ficalora “The King as High Priest: Priestly Ritual in the White Chapel of Senwosret I”, Janet Khuu James “Bioarchaeological Research in the North Abydos Votive Zone” and Silvia Zago “Theban Necropolis in the New Kingdom: Private tombs between continuity and change”. The Chapter also held a Mini-Symposium about Pompeii, especially contacts between Pompeii and ancient Egypt, to coincide with the exhibit “Pompeii: In the Shadow of the Volcano” at the Royal Ontario Museum. The speakers for the Mini-Symposium were: Dr. Benjamin Kelly “Egyptians on the Bay of Naples”, Dr. Lynley McAlpine “Living and dying in ancient Pompeii”, Dr. John Westgate “The Eruption of Vesuvius in A.D. 79” and Jody Cundy “The Ancient World in Film: Pompeii in Context”. The Chapter would like to offer our deepest appreciation to all of the speakers for sharing their expertise with us this year!

The Chapter offered two courses in 2014-2015: Gayle Gibson “Karnak in the History of Egypt: Kingly Egos and Amun, the Poor Man’s Lawyer” and Dr. Lyn Green “Jewels of the Pharaohs”. Revenue raised by the courses helps cover expense related to the Lecture Series. Thank you to everyone who attended for your support and a big thank-you to our instructors Gayle and Lyn for making the courses possible!

The Chapter hosted several social events in 2014-2015. We visited a screening of “Pharaoh’s Daughter” by Bolshoi Ballet, went to THE MUSEUM in Kitchener, Ontario to see the exhibit “Unwrapping Egypt”, held a movie night (“Pompeii”) and, of course, celebrated in the summer at our annual New Year Party. Great times were had by all. Thank you to Arlette Londes and Zoë McQuinn for organizing the 2014-2015 social events!

Finally, 2014-2015 also brought a loss to the Toronto Chapter. Dr. Christina Geisen stepped down as President to accept a position at Yale University. The Chapter would like to extend a huge thank-you to Christina for all her service to the Chapter and wish her every success with her future endeavors.

The Toronto Chapter is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2015 Nicholas B. Millet Travel Scholarship is Janet Khuu James. Ms. James will be reimbursed for expenses accrued during field research to complete the data collection for her dissertation at the site of Abydos the amount of \$974.17.

The Toronto Chapter Executive 2015-2016 is: Deirdre Keleher (President), Sami Akhnouk (Vice-President), Hanna Kurnitzki-West (Vice-President), Ronald Leprohon (Vice-President), Arlette Londes (Vice-President), Erin Kerr (Treasurer), Zoë McQuinn (Secretary), Les O’Connor (Chapter Representative to National) and Steven Shubert (Member-at-large). For information about events taking place in 2015-2016 (including lectures, courses and social events) please see the website (<http://thessea.org>) or follow us on twitter (<https://twitter.com/sseatoronto>).

Vancouver Chapter Report, Fall 2015

The Vancouver Chapter has three new executive members for 2015-2016: Courtney McCombie (Chapter President and Representative to the Board of Trustees), Elizabeth Labrecque (Chapter Treasurer) and Kimberly Head (Chapter Secretary). The academic liaison for this year is Prof. Cathy D’Andrea of Simon Fraser University.

The Chapter held four events in 2015, all lectures. Most recent was a well-attended lecture by Prof. Thomas Schneider of UBC, entitled “Exploring Foreign Lands: How much did Ancient Egyptians Know about the World Beyond Egypt?” held on the campus of Simon Fraser University.

Finally, the Chapter are pleased to report that they now have their Chapter blog up and running. You can visit it at <https://sseavancouver.wordpress.com/>.

Keep up to date by liking the Chapter’s Page on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/vancouversea>

The SSEA Publications Website

The SSEA Board of Trustees has been working diligently on addressing our online presence and providing an alternative, online solution to our publications. As many of you know, the old website had issues with posting online publications for our membership. This past year, the Board made the decision that this needed to be addressed and approached our online team to develop a website devoted to our publications. We are happy to announce that we have the online architecture that will allow our membership to access the JSSEA and the SSEA Newsletter online. Not only will this save on our mailing costs but it also will make it easier to search our publications for specific information. Note that this does not mean that you will have to read your journal and newsletter just on your computer as the publications website will allow you to save a PDF-file to your computer or device (and you can print it if you so choose). The publications website is also going to be accessible through your desktop computer or a mobile device because we certainly understand that most of our members are using a variety of gadgets to access Egyptological information.

Right now, our staff is working diligently on getting our journals online. Our current plan is to put our current most recent journals (*JSSEA* vols. 40 and 41) online and work backwards till we complete our catalog to *JSSEA* vol. 30. The next phase is creating access rights for those who want online access. The Board of Trustees is currently working on how this online resource will be accessed by our membership – so we ask for your patience, while we work out the logistics. One thing is for certain though, the publications website will make the SSEA’s publications more accessible to a wider audience while, at the same time, making it easier to find specific information.

If you have any questions or comments about our online initiatives, please contact the SSEA National (thessea@gmail.com).

Call for Donations : Website Development

The Society of the Study of Egyptian Antiquities (la Société pour l’Étude de l’Égypte Ancienne) wants to provide a better online presence to its membership. When our current website was developed in the early 2000s, it suited our needs to provide a nexus of communication. However, with the advancements in technological services and web facilities, it has become clear that the SSEA should overhaul its website to provide something that will suit our needs for the coming years.

Using the symposium website as a model, the SSEA wants to provide our membership with an updated website that facilitates online access to the Society’s news and events – whether you’ll use a desktop computer or a smartphone device. The new website will make it easier for our staff to update sections of the website than ever before.

However, to complete this task, the SSEA will require some funding and we ask humbly that you, our membership, to help us out. If you are interested in making a donation specifically to this website project, we ask that you donate to the SSEA and note that you would like these funds to go to our new website’s deployment (such as “website development” in the memo of a cheque, or the comment section of the SSEA’s Paypal account). Also note that we are a charitable organization, any donation that we receive will entitle you to tax receipt. If you require any assistance on making a donation to the SSEA, please contact our office via phone or email (647.520.4339 or info@thessea.org).

You may also make a donation via a GoFundMe campaign set up to help with funding the creation of the new SSEA website. Please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/sseawebsiterenewal>, and make a donation. It’s that simple!

Thank you for your time and we hope to hear from you soon.



The opinions expressed in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities. Are you a member of the SSEA? The SSEA/SÉÉA has Chapters in Calgary, Alberta, Montréal, Québec, Toronto, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia. The Chapters host lectures and events on Egyptological topics. Full Individual and Student Memberships in the Society includes a volume of the scholarly Journal of the SSEA and the SSEA Newsletter, and free or discounted admission to SSEA events. Associate Membership in the SSEA includes the Newsletter and free or discounted admission to events. Associate Membership is only open to members in provinces which have a Chapter. All categories of membership, excluding institutional members, are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting. To apply for membership, write to the address on the front of this Newsletter or email us at info@thessea.org. For updates, schedule changes, and further information, see the SSEA website at: www.thessea.org.